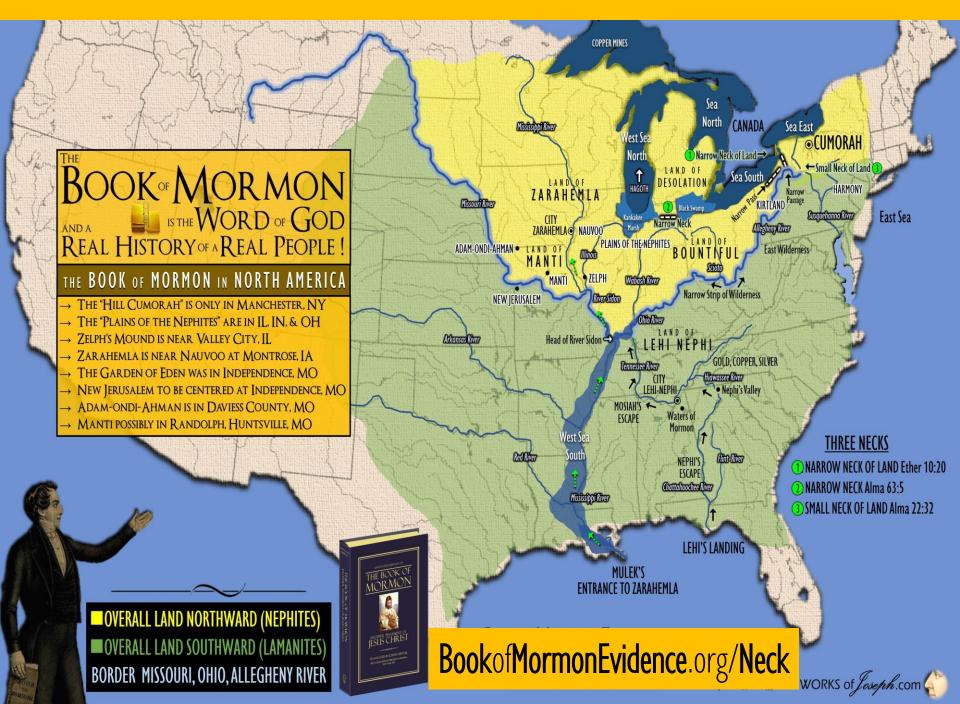
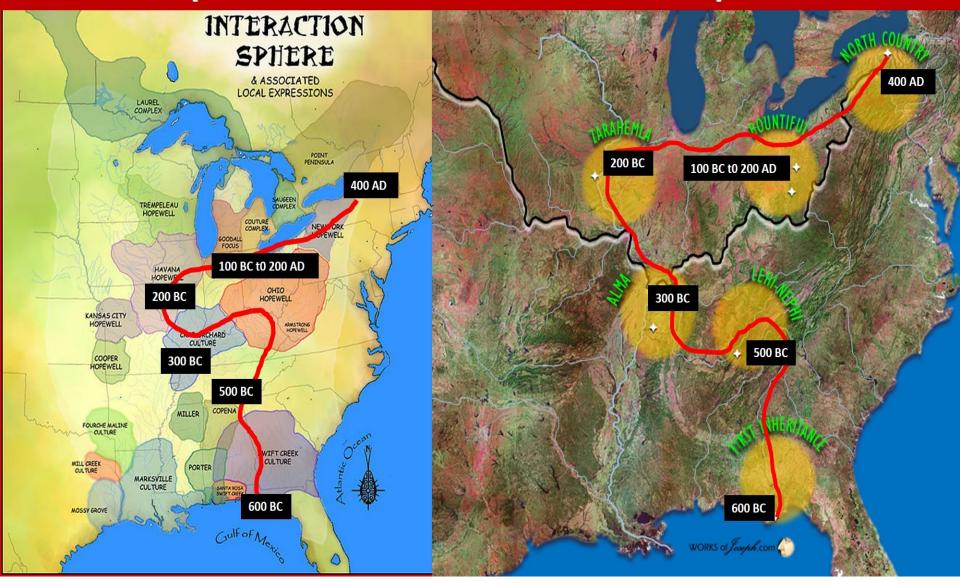
Where is the Narrow Neck of Land?



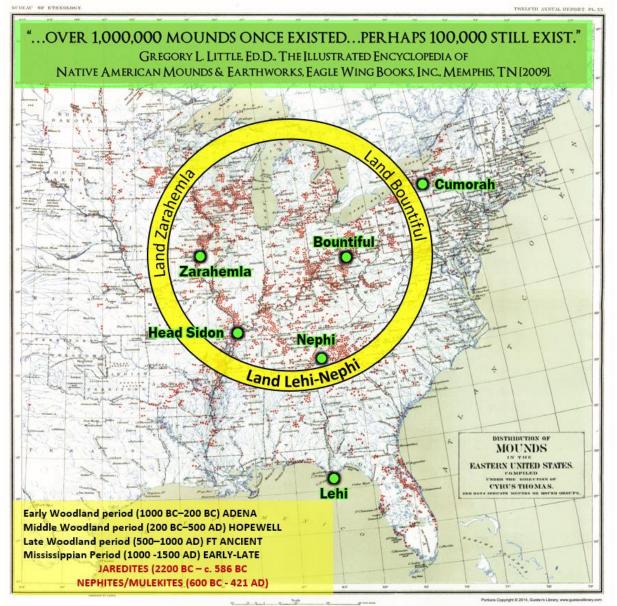
Hopewell Culture Parallel's The Nephites



BookofMormonEvidence.org/Neck

MOUND EXPLORATIONS

BUREAU OF ETHNOLOGY, 12TH ANNUAL REPORT, 1890-91



CYRUS THOMAS, 1894

WORKS of Joseph.com

"The most common question that is asked about mounds is, "How many exist?" In the 1800's the Smithsonian sponsored many expeditions to identify mound sites across America. A map (shown below) was produced by Cyrus Thomas in 1894 in a Bureau of Ethnology book. They found approximately 100,000 mound sites, many with complexes containing 2 to 100 mounds. The figure of 100,000 mounds once existing—based on Cyrus Thomas map revealing 100,000 sites—is often cited by others, but that estimate is far, far too low. After visiting several thousand mounds and reviewing the literature, I am fairly certain that over 1,000,000 mounds once existed and that perhaps 100,000 still exist. Oddly, some new mound sites are discovered each year by archaeological surveys in remote areas. But in truth, a large majority of America's mounds have been completely destroyed by farming, construction, looting, and deliberate total excavations" — *Gregory L. Little*, Ed.D., The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Native American Mounds & Earthworks, Eagle Wing Books, Inc., Memphis, TN [2009].

- I. Where is the Promised/Chosen Land, of the Book of Mormon?
- 2. Where is the Hill Cumorah where the last battles occurred?
- 3. Why does Book of Mormon Geography Matter?
 - Where is the Narrow Neck of Land?

4.

2 Promised Lands



Where is the Promised/Chosen Land, of the Book of Mormon?

Ether 13:2-3

"For behold, they rejected all the words of Ether; for he truly told them of all things, from the beginning of man; and that after the waters had receded from off the face of this land it became a choice land above all other lands, a chosen land of the Lord; wherefore the Lord would have that all men should serve him who dwell upon the face thereof; And that it was the place of the New Jerusalem, which should come down out of heaven, and the holy sanctuary of the Lord."

"I should like to say a few words about America.... No land is without its beauty, no people without their virtues, and I hope that you who come from elsewhere will pardon my saying a few words concerning my own native land, America. I know that she has problems. We have heard so much of them for so long. But surely this is a good land, a choice land, a chosen land. To me it is a miracle, a creation of the Almighty." Gordon B. Hinckley

"The Lord gave a divine promise to the ancient inhabitants of this favored country (the United States): 'Behold, this is a choice land, and whatsoever nation shall possess it shall be free from bondage, and from captivity, and from all other nations under heaven, if they will but serve the God of the land, who is Jesus Christ" (Ether 2:12). "Our Heavenly Father inspired the leaders of...the United States of America, that they might together, under His direction, having been raised up by God for the purpose, establish the Constitution of this country and...Bill of Rights, that by the year of our Lord 1805 [there would be] a climate where our Heavenly Father could send into this period of mortality a choice spirit who would be known as Joseph Smith, Jr." Monson, Thomas S., Teachings of Thomas S.

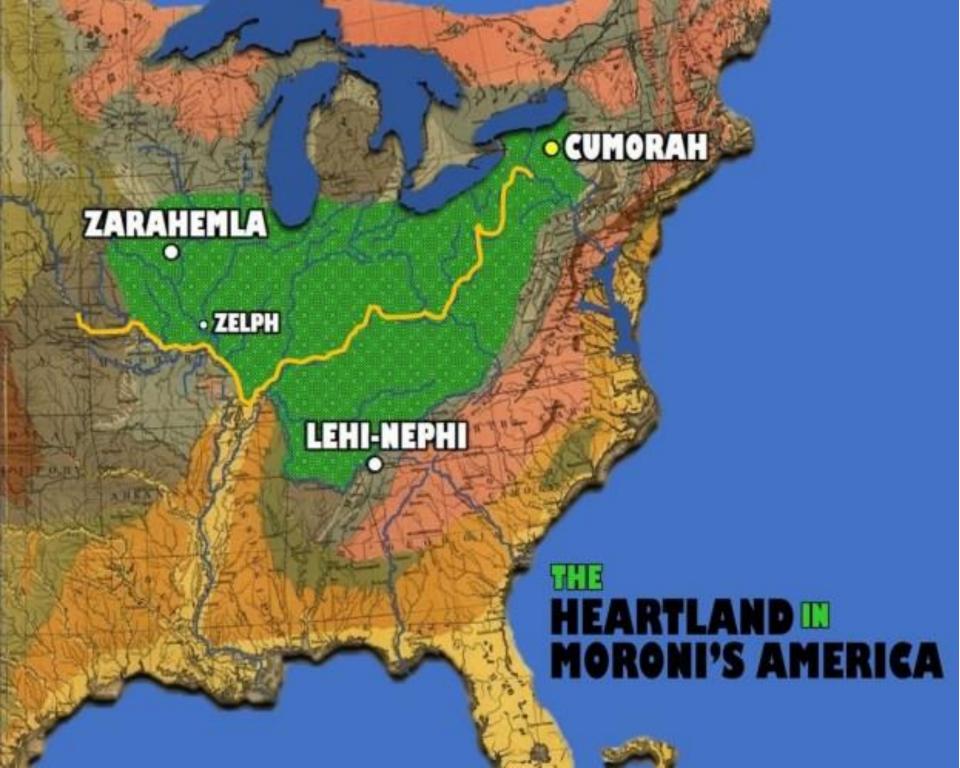
Monson, 2011, pp. 14-15, 157-158



"The final struggles between Nephites and Lamanites were waged in the vicinity of the Hill Cumorah, in what is now the State of New York, resulting in the destruction of the Nephites as a nation, about 400 A.D. The last Nephite representative was Moroni, who, wandering for safety from place to place, daily expecting death from the victorious Lamanites, wrote the concluding parts of the Book of Mormon, and hid the record in Cumorah. It was this same Moroni who, as a resurrected being, gave the records into the hands of Joseph Smith in the present dispensation." James Talmage Articles of Faith

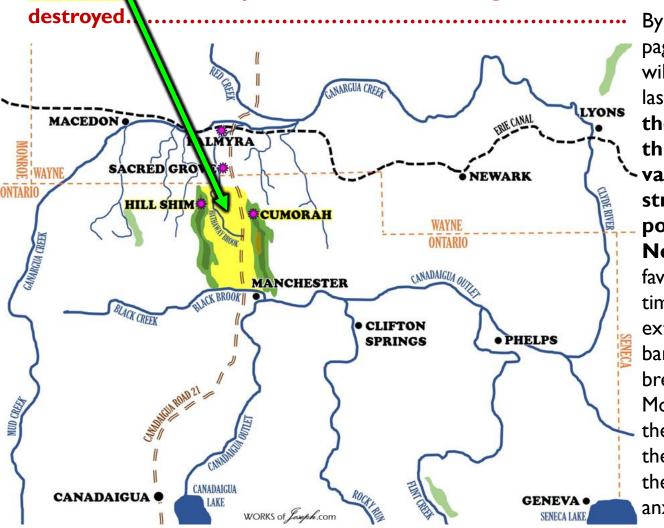
"For many decades the Nephites retreated before their aggressive foes, making their way north-eastward through what is now the United States. About 400 A.D. the last great battle was fought near the hill Cumorah; and the Nephite nation became extinct. The degenerate remnant of Lehi's posterity, the Lamanites or American Indians, have continued until this day. Moroni, the last of the Nephite prophets, hid away the record of his people in the hill Cumorah, whence it has been brought forth by divine direction in the current dispensation. That record is now before the world translated through the gift and power of God, and published to the edification of all nations, as the BOOK OF MORMON." James Talmage, Jesus the Christ, p. 743

"If Zelph, a righteous man, was fighting under a great prophet-general in the last battles between the Nephites and Lamanites; if that great prophet-general was known from the Rocky Mountains to "the Hill Cumorah or eastern sea," then some of those battles, and evidently the final battles did take place within the borders of what is now the United States... This being true, what would be more natural then that Moroni, like his father Mormon, would deposit the plates in the land where the battles came to an end and the Nephites were destroyed? This Moroni says he did, and from all the evidence in the Book of Mormon, augmented by the testimony of the Prophet Joseph Smith, these final battles took place in the territory known as the United States and in the neighborhood of the Great Lakes and hills of Western New York. And here Moroni found the resting place for the sacred instruments which had been committed to his care." Joseph Fielding Smith, DS Volume 3



Hill Cumorah Fact

"At about one mile west rises another ridge of less height, running parallel with the former, leaving a beautiful vale between. The soil is of the first quality for the country, and under a state of cultivation, which gives a prospect at once imposing, when one reflects on the fact, that here, between these hills, the entire power and national strength of both the Jaredites and Nephites were



By turning to the 529th and 530th pages of the Book of Mormon, you will read Mormon's account of the last great struggle of his people, as they were encamped round this hill Cumorah. In this valley fell the remaining strength and pride of a once powerful people, the **Nephites**—once so highly favored of the Lord, but at that time in darkness, doomed to suffer extermination by the hand of their barbarous and uncivilized brethren. From the top of this hill, Mormon, with a few others, after the battle, gazed with horror upon the mangled remains of those who, the day before, were filled with anxiety, hope, or doubt."

Oliver Cowdery's Letter VII Joseph Smith Papers July 1835, 1:155-159

Why does the geography matter? Think of that question if we are speaking about Israel. Does it matter where the Savior was born, or where the Biblical events happened? Yes. At Mount Moriah where Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac, the Lord made a special covenant with Abraham. The land around Mt Moriah was a covenant land and God's people were given that covenant land as long as they are righteous. However, if they disobey the commandments, God's people will be swept off that sacred land. The Jews, Muslims, and Christians fight over control over this one piece of land why? Because it is a beautiful piece of real estate? No, because it is a covenant land.

In the same token what is the Promised Land spoken of in the Book of Mormon? According to the Book of Mormon this Promised land must meet certain requirements to be the Promised Land. I. No Kings upon the land 2. Land choice above all other lands 3. Land of Liberty 4. Land where sacred record is kept 5. Land kept from the knowledge of other nations. 6. Land of the New Jerusalem 7. Gentiles to scatter and afflict the Remnant. 8. The place where the Marvelous Work and Wonder happened. These are only 8 of 36 prophesies and promises in the Book of Mormon so it makes sense to me that the USA is the Promised Land. Not Canada, Mexico, England, or South America.

Just as Israel is a Promised Land forever, so the USA is a Promised Land forever and it does matter where this Promised Land is located. It is in the Heartland of North America. The Nephites practiced the Law of Moses. To do this they needed the following plants and animals to keep the Law. Sheep, Rams, Goats, Bullocks, Doves, Wheat, Barley, and Wine. None of these animals or items are found anywhere in Mesoamerica during the Nephites times, only in the USA. So, the land and where things happen is critical to us and especially to the Lord.

If we in the church cannot even decide among ourselves where the Book of Mormon happened, how confusing is that to our youth and adults? The Anti-Mormons love the idea that we don't even know where our sacred scriptures happened. There are over 100 theories of where the Book of Mormon happened, including, Baja, Chile, Malaysia, Honduras, Peru, etc.

I know the Brethren of the Church take a neutral position on the geography of the Book of Mormon. There are many CES instructors and other BYU professors that teach the Two Cumorah theory or Mesoamerican theory, and they say a second Hill Cumorah exists somewhere in Mexico, but they aren't sure where. I believe there is only one Hill Cumorah which is associated with the Heartland Model of the Book of Mormon. For you and I to take a neutral stand is not required. The Lord told us to read and study, and in the promise to Moroni, He said we may know the truth of ALL things, and that would include knowing the location of the Book of Mormon events. I believe knowledge of the Spirit and of the head, are both important in learning truth. I used to believe in the Mesoamerican theory, but after research and prayer I believe in the Heartland Model.

Where is the Narrow Neck of Land?



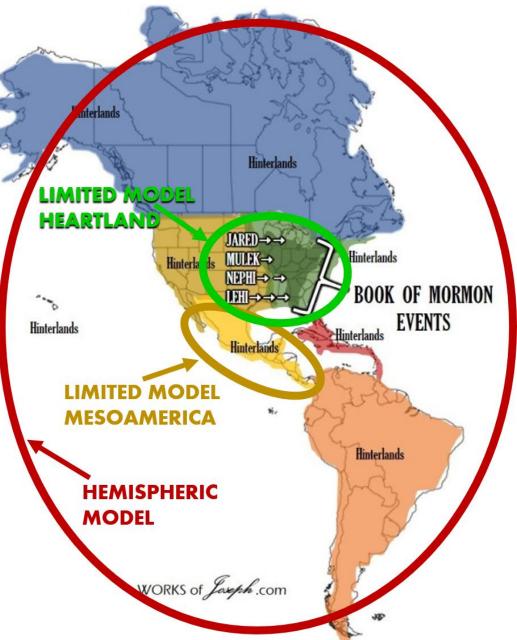
Niagara Etymology

Hn.William Bright, in Native American Place Names of the United States (2004), pg. 325, says "Niagara" comes from an Iroquoian language, and that the word means "neck". So my suggested wording of the intro would now be "from Onguiaahra or Ongiara, a word in an Iroquoian language, which probably meant either "strait" or "neck "or "bisected land". though it is sometimes said to mean "thunder of the water"." --Miskwito 02:14,27 March 2007 (UTC)

Wikipedia says: According to George R. Stewart, it comes from the name of an Iroquois town called "Ongniaahra", meaning "point of land cut in two"... (Niagara Falls) Wikipedia says: The name "Niagara" is said to originate from an Iroquois word "Onguiaahra" meaning "The Strait." from an Indian word meaning "bisected bottom lands" [4] On Sanson's Map of Canada, published in Paris in 1657, the Falls went under the name of "Ongiara". ... The name Niagara is of Indian extraction and means "thunder of the water". [5] There's a lot of variation here, but it seems to me that the most commonly-cited origins generally have something to do with water cutting through land ("the strait"/"bisected land"/"point of land cut in two)."

Hemispheric Model or Limited Model?

Moroni's America, Jonathan Neville Page 20-21 said... "When we look on a globe, we immediately

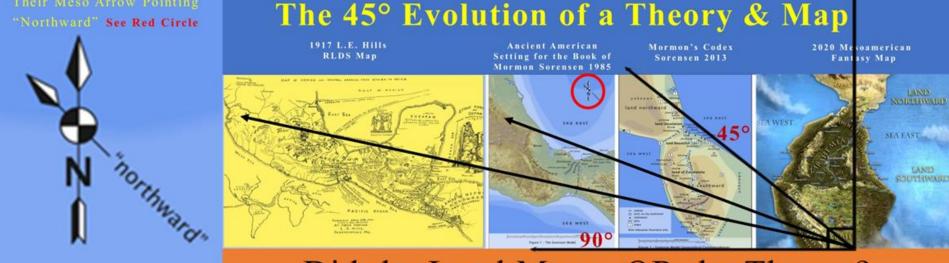


think of Panama as a narrow neck of land connecting North and South America. However, scholars have pointed out that a hemispheric interpretation of Book of Mormon geography contradicts the text; the distances are simply too great.

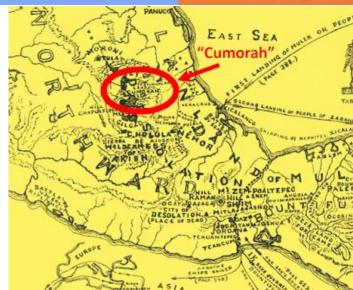
Instead, scholars have proposed a more limited territory. Two articles in the 1984 Ensign introduced the limited model of Book of Mormon geography in Mesoamerica to a wide LDS audience. The author of those articles, John Sorenson, has also written that "A key feature of any geographical correlation must include a narrow neck of land connecting two sizable land masses... Only one geographical correlation avoids fatal flaws: The narrow neck of land was the Isthmus of **Tehuantepec.** Sorenson, Mormon's Codex, pp. 21-22

Where is the Mesoamerican Narrow Neck of Land? Two Mesoamerican Theories?

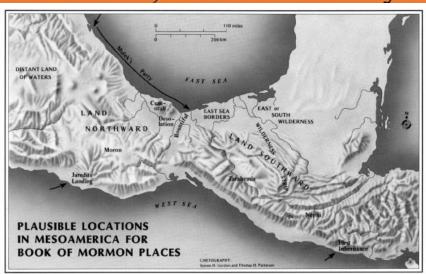




Did the Land Move, OR the Theory?



Yellow Map by L.E. Hills RLDS 1917



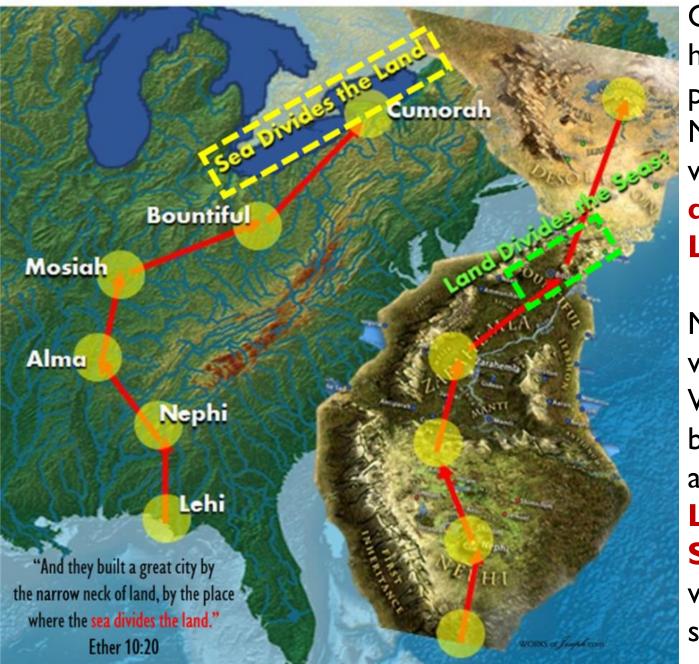
Map by Steven H. Gordon and Thomas M Patterson

"One of the most common questions asked about the North American setting is, "what about the narrow neck of land?" People have been taught to think the Book of Mormon describes two large land masses connected by the "narrow neck of land." The hourglass shape has been depicted in many LDS publications." Moroni's America pg. 20



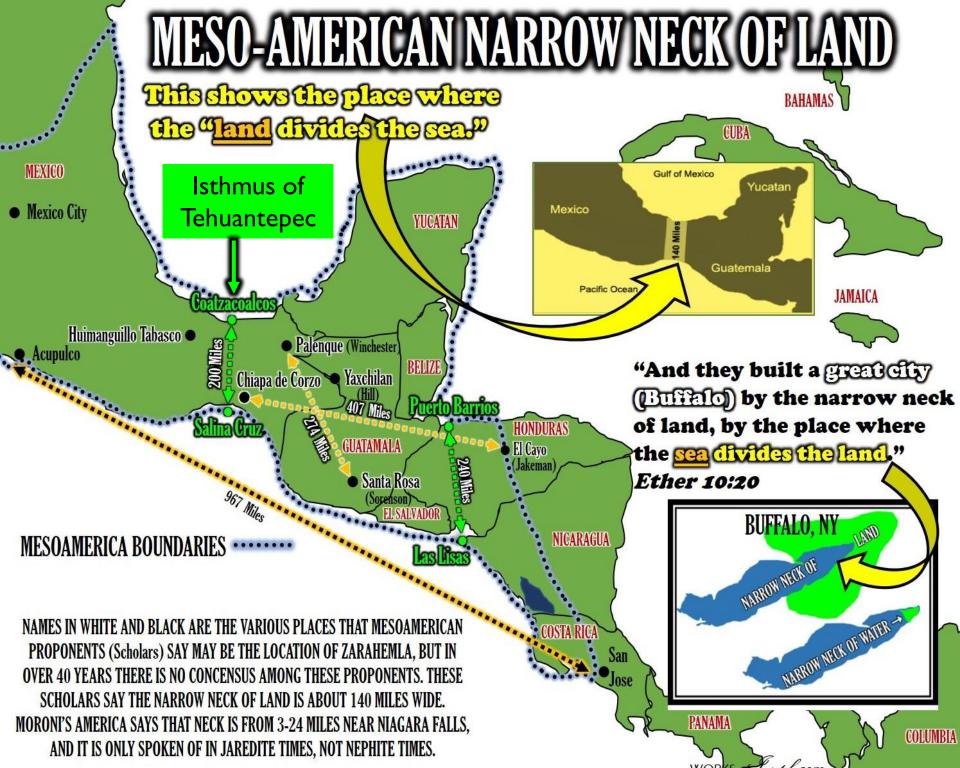
THE MESOAMERICAN FANTASY MAP

ETHER 10:20



Our Heartland Map has always been properly aligned North and South, with the SEA dividing the LAND

Mesoamerica's map was aligned East and West, but now has been turned North and South. Their LAND divides the SEA which is not what Ether 10:20 says.

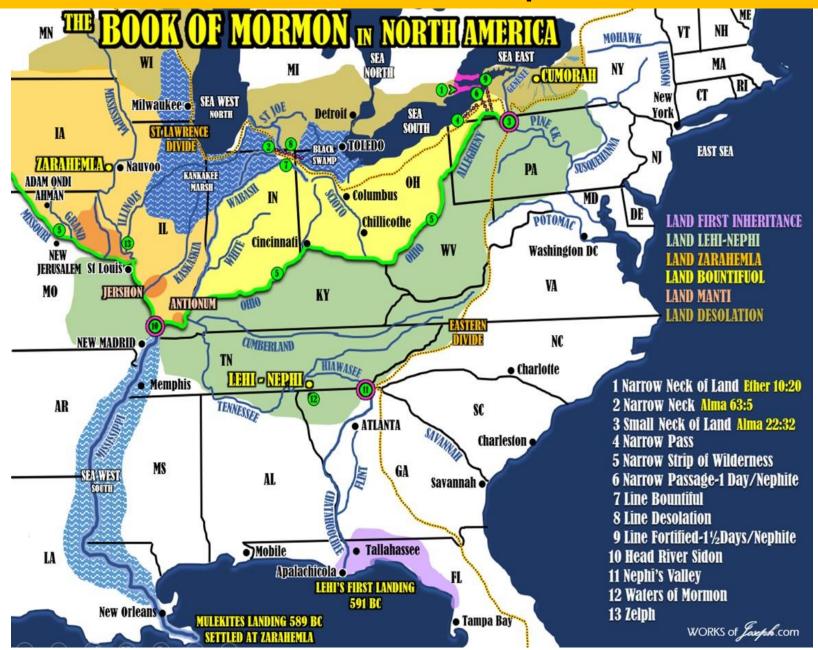


How Many Necks Are There?

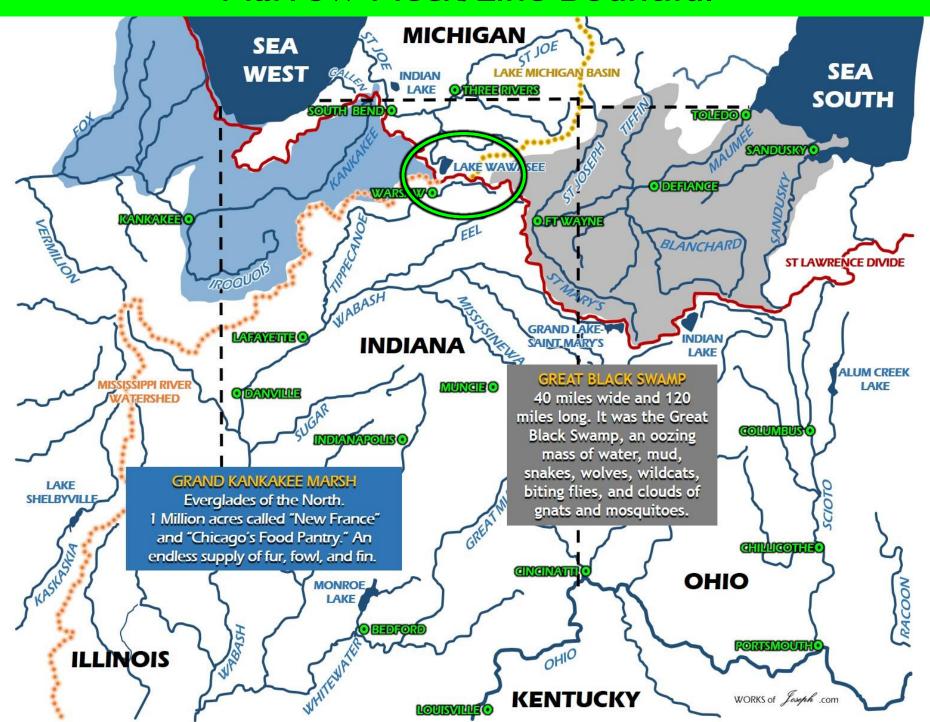
There are 3 unique mentions in the Book of Mormon about NECKS! All in different locations

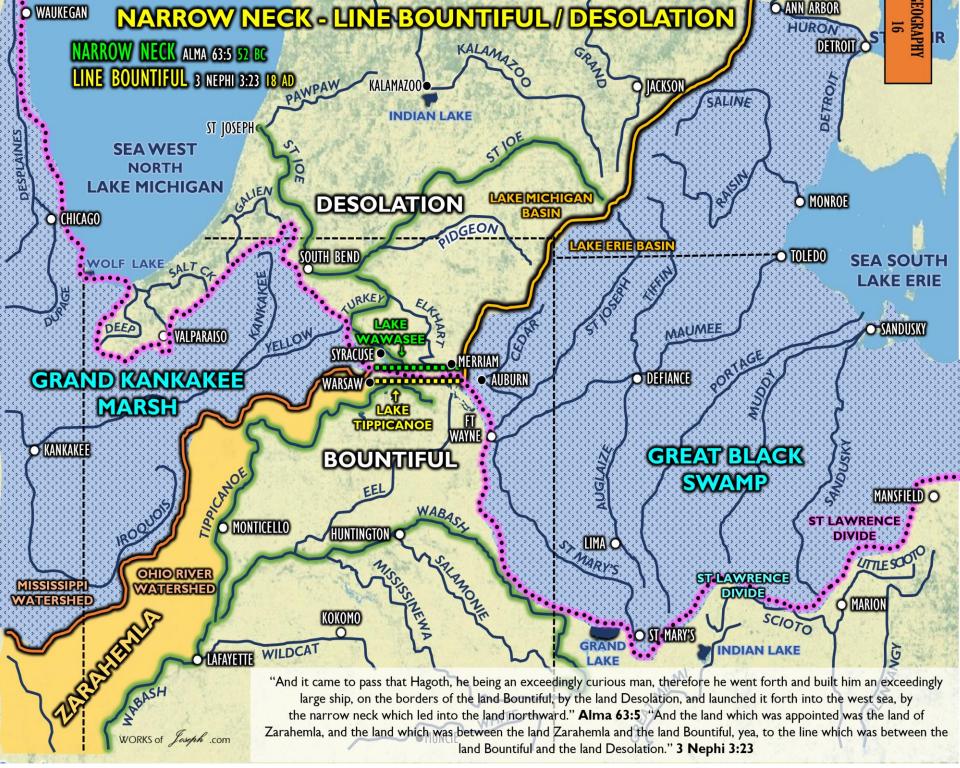


How Many Necks, Lines, Passages, Passes, Heads and Strips?

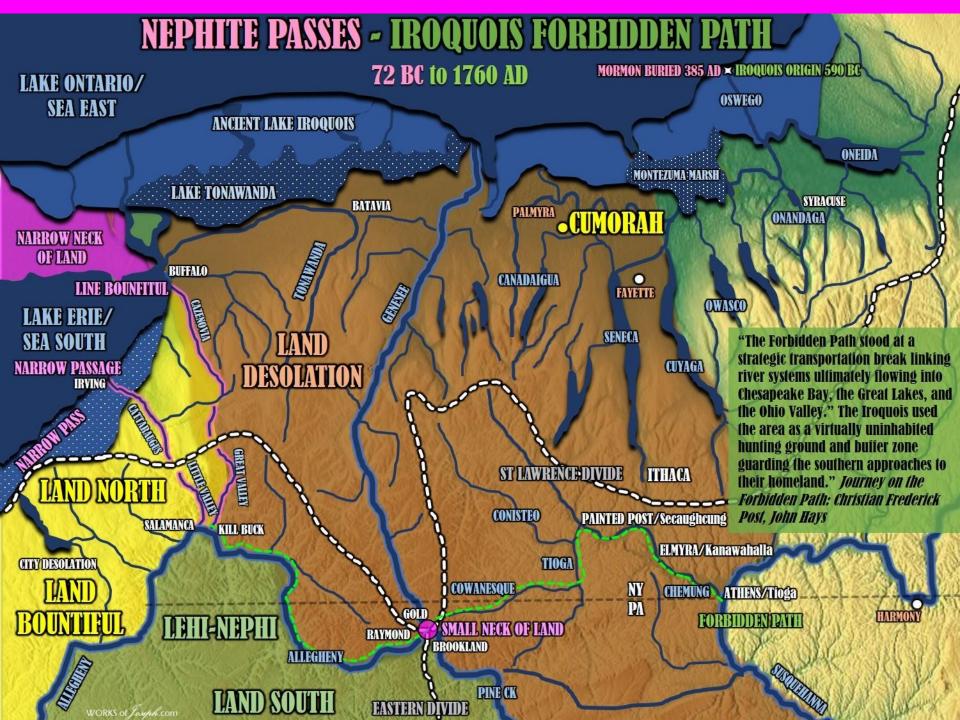


Narrow Neck/Line Bountiful

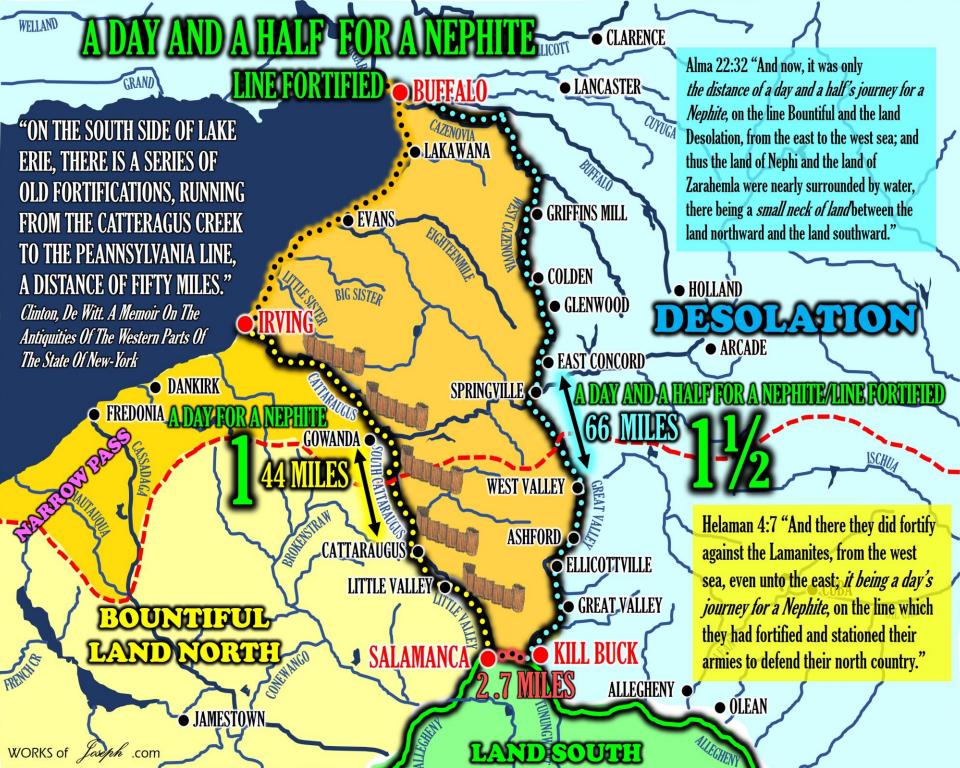




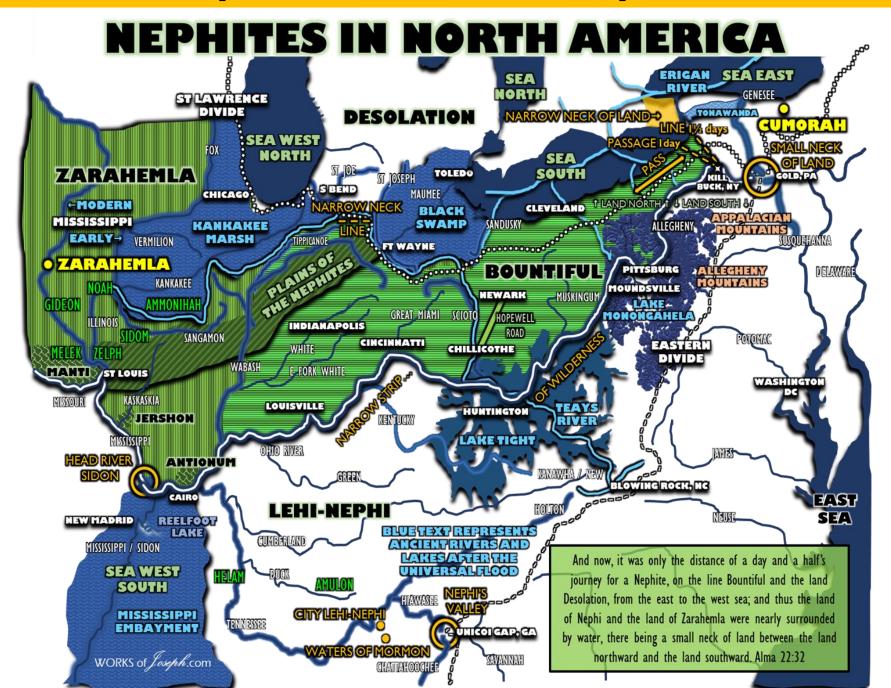
Small Neck of Land

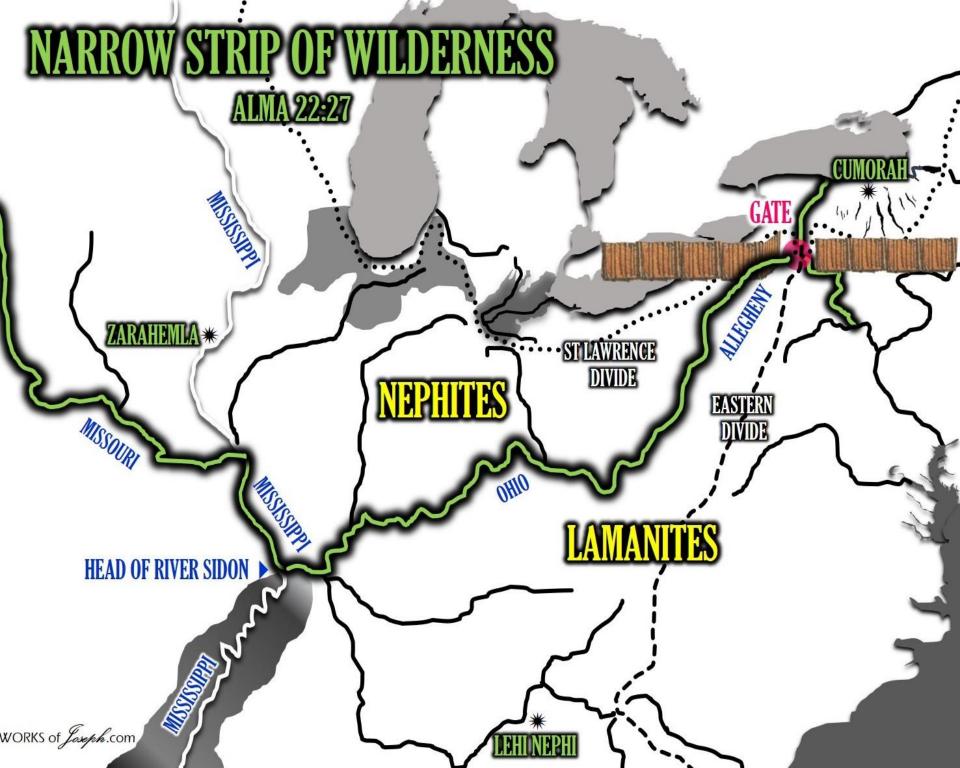






Nearly Surrounded by Water

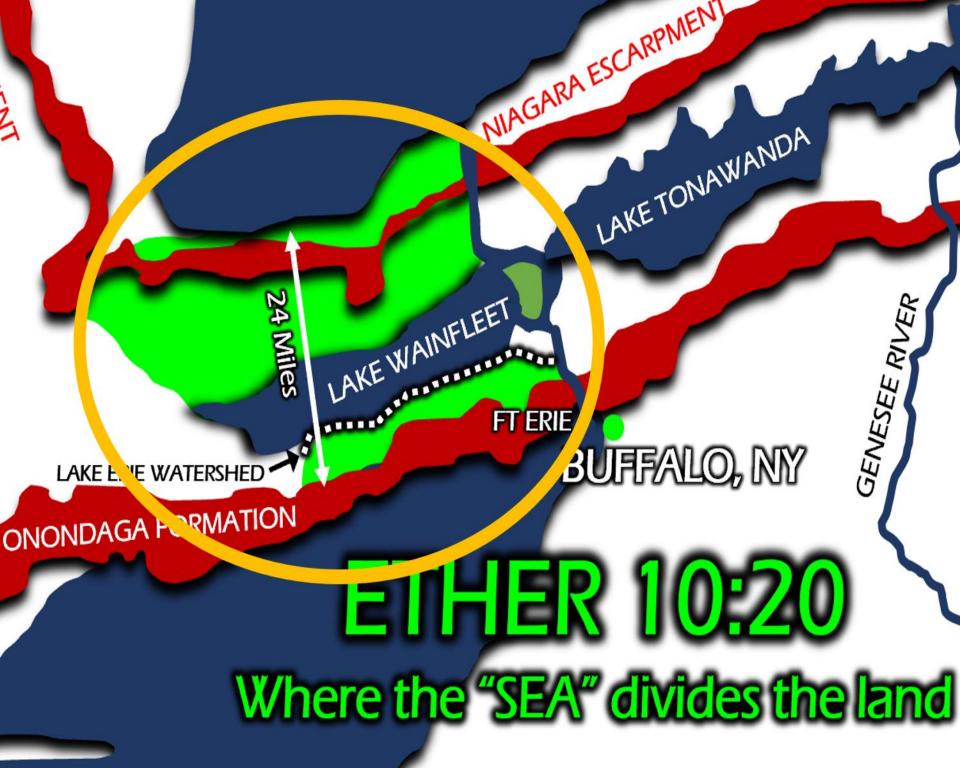




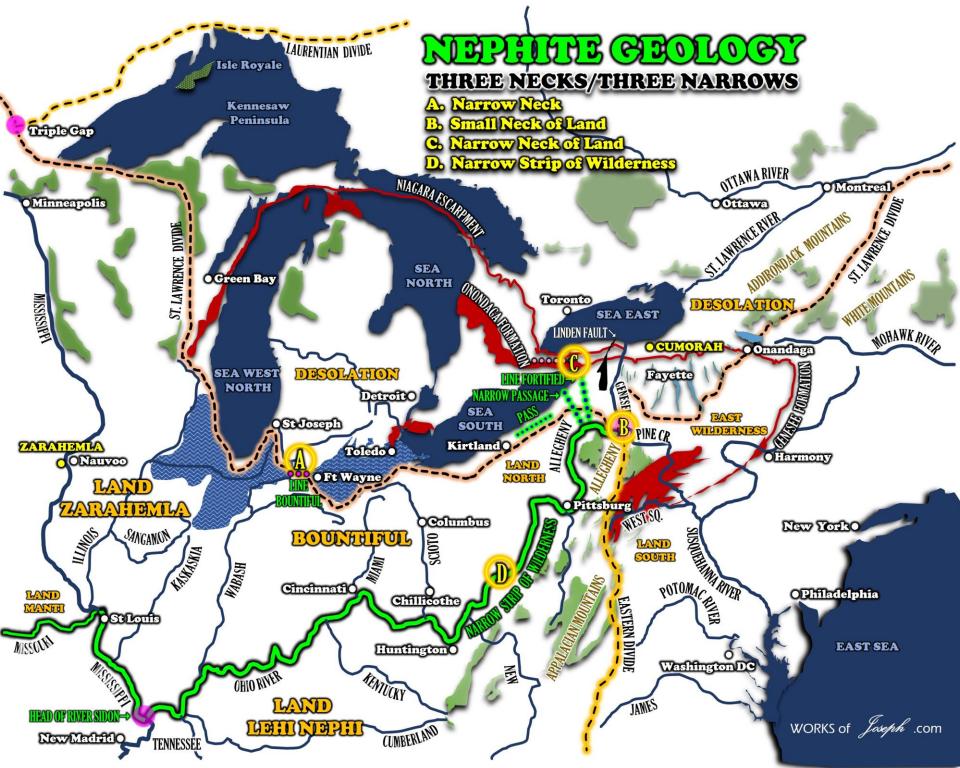
Narrow Neck of Land- Deep Dive

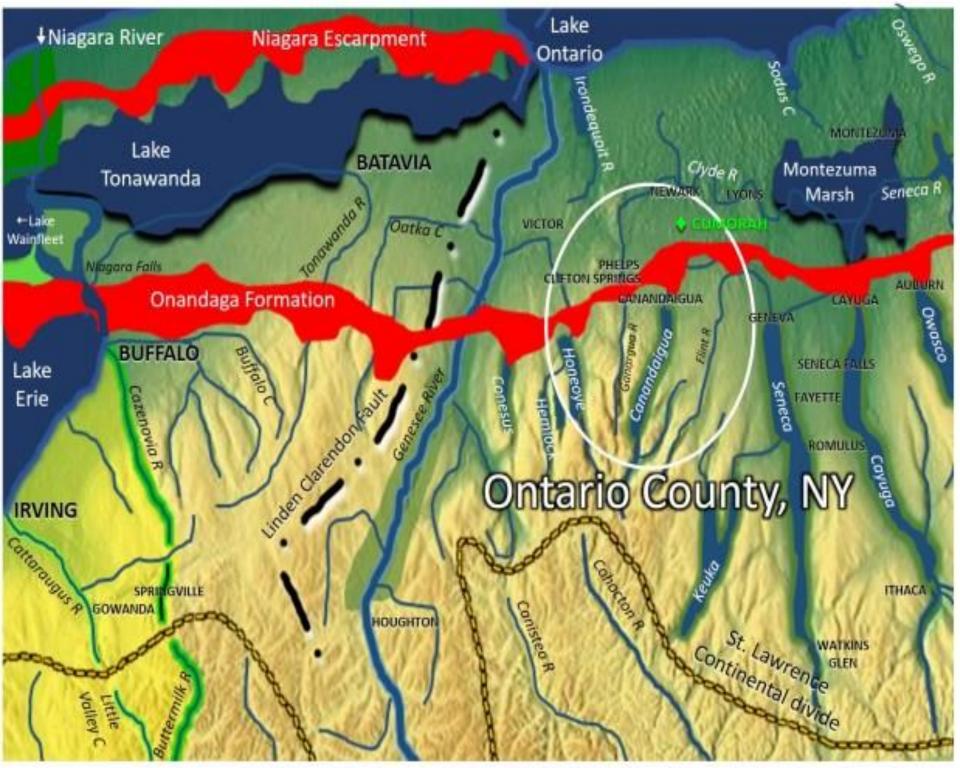


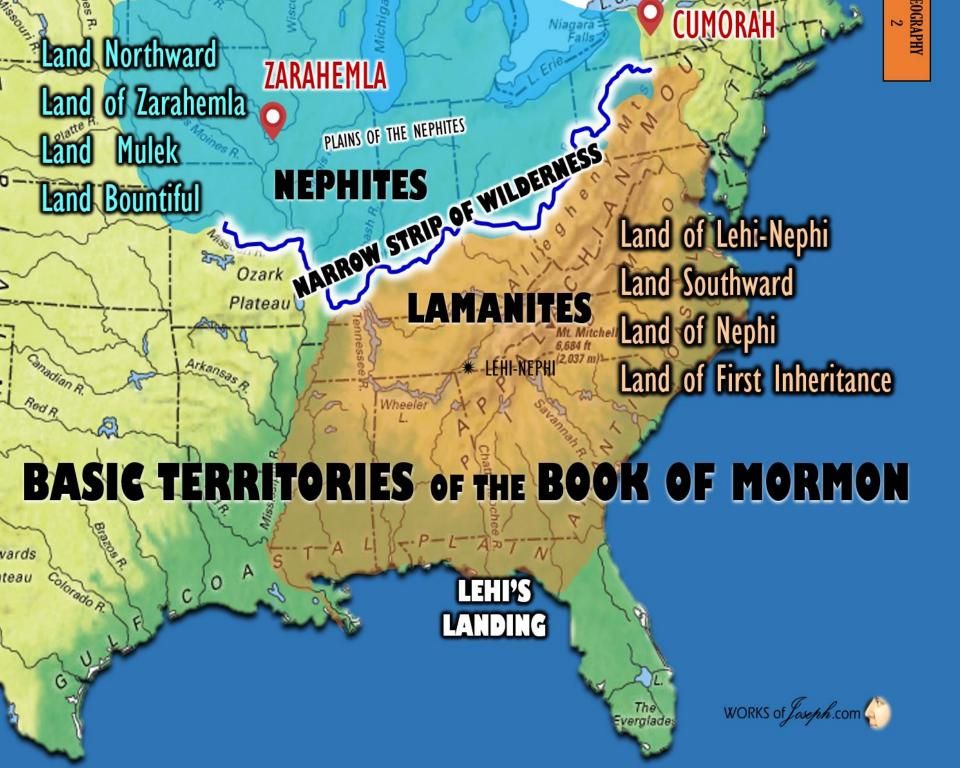


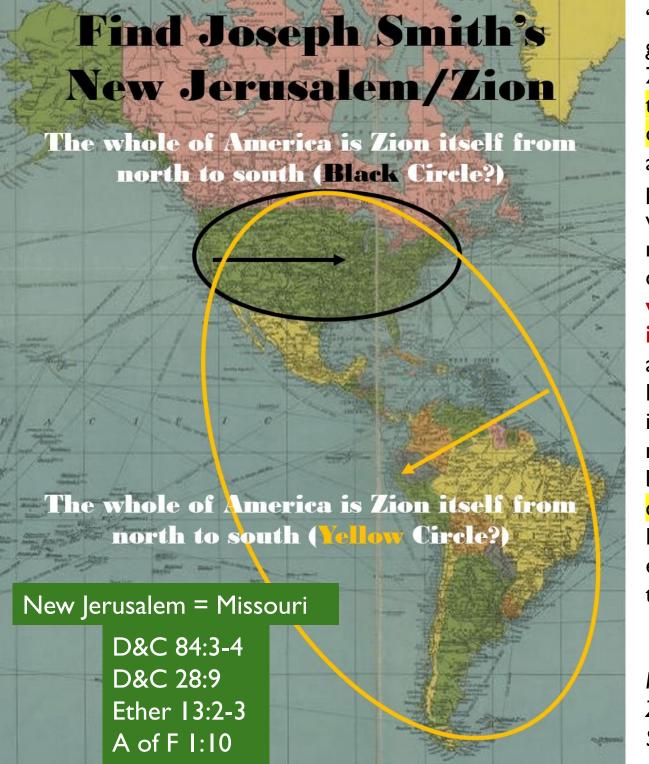






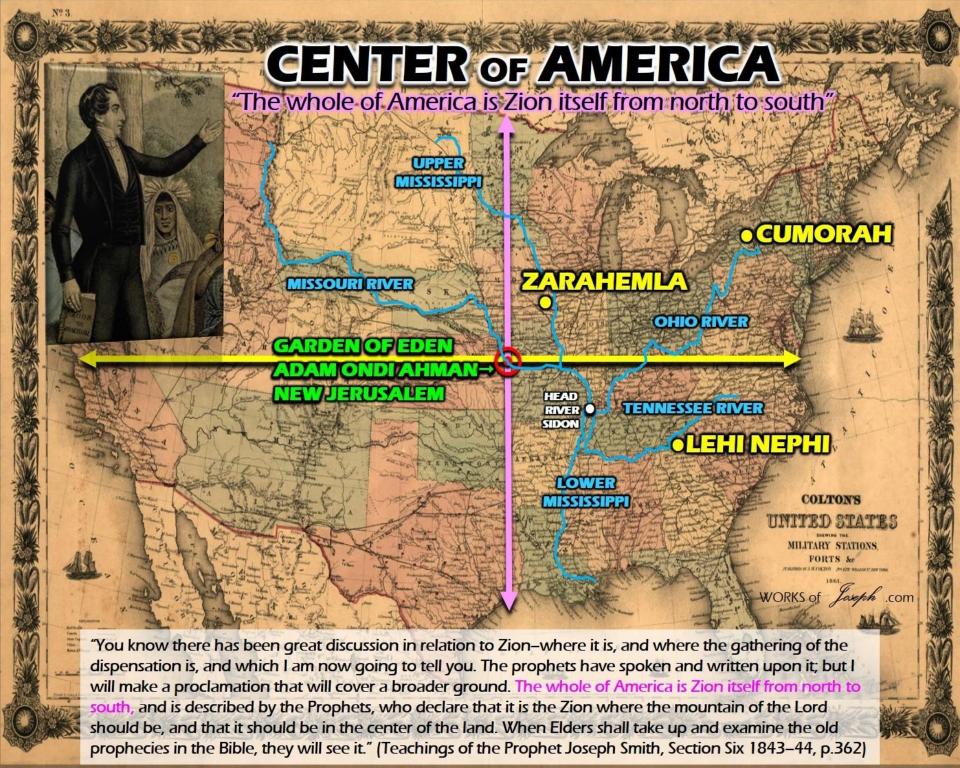




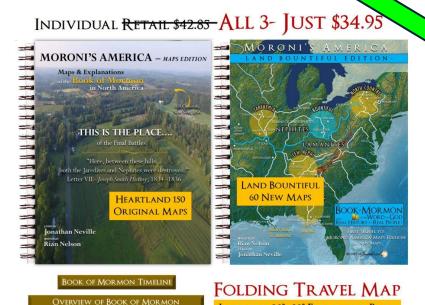


"You know there has been great discussion in relation to Zion--where it is, and where the gathering of the dispensation is, and which I am now going to tell you. The prophets have spoken and written upon it; but I will make a proclamation that will cover a broader ground. The whole of America is Zion itself from north to south, and is described by the Prophets, who declare that it is the Zion where the mountain of the Lord should be, and that it should be in the center of the land. When Elders shall take up and examine the old prophecies in the Bible, they will see it."

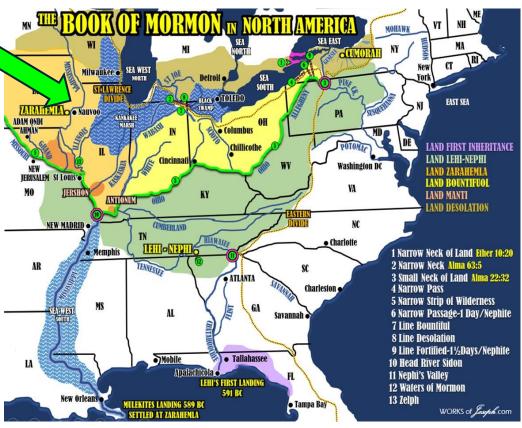
President Joseph Smith's Remarks--The Whole of America Zion--April Conference, 1844 Section Six 1843-44, p.362



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